



TEAMSTERS LOCAL

705 UPDATE

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 3 • JUNE, 1998

In this issue of UPDATE, we report on some below-the-belt punches thrown by our political enemies. First the jab: Anti-union pols are trying to stamp out our political strength with Prop. 226 (see Secretary Treasurer's report). Then the right cross: Those same folks are holding union and nonunion workers' healthcare hostage until we muster the political strength to win it back (see Special Report). But 705 got in a few good licks of our own with a \$7.2 million UPS settlement and \$27,000 in back pay to a single member. Stay Tuned for Round Two!

INSIDE:

- 2 Secretary-Treasurer's Report
- 4 UPS Shot
- 6 Special Report: Healthcare—A Call to Action
- 8 Photo Montage
- 11 Shop Talk

705 member wins \$27,000 in back pay! See page 4 for details.

705 Lauded as Model of Reform

When you dig beneath the political rhetoric, the facts speak for themselves—Reform has made Local 705 and the IBT a better, stronger union.”

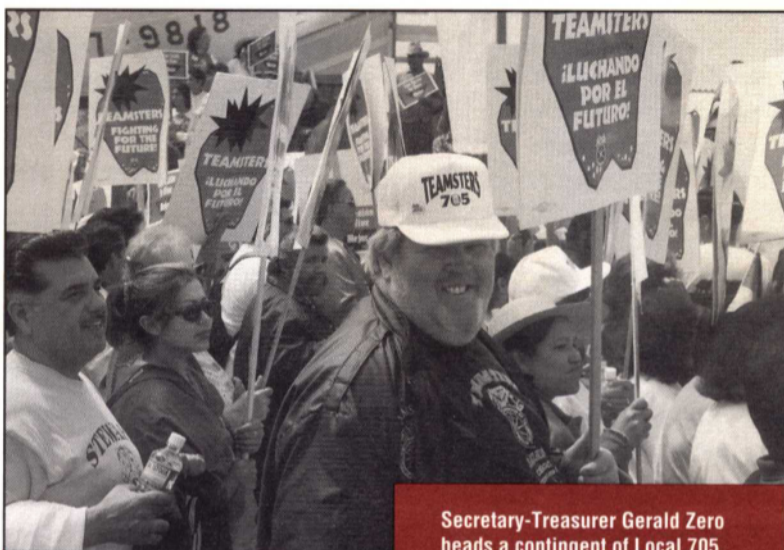
—Gerald Zero

On April 6, 1998, the Wall Street Journal ran an article heralding Local 705 as a model of Teamster reform. The article, written by Robert L. Rose, has been reproduced in its entirety below:

Cleanup of Teamsters Shows Some Results

The conventional wisdom on the Teamsters these days is that the government's effort to clean up the corruption-scarred union has been a flop.

Judging from the latest election scandal, it's easy to understand why that perception exists. Teamsters President Ron Carey—accused of taking part in an illegal fund-raising scheme—was disqualified as a candidate for this summer's rerun election and has taken an unpaid leave to fight the allegations. His rival and archenemy, James P. Hoffa, son of the legendary Teamsters



Secretary-Treasurer Gerald Zero heads a contingent of Local 705 members marching in support of strawberry workers.

boss, is the current front-runner for Mr. Carey's old job. But he, too, is accused of election-related improprieties.

To many, charges of corruption represent business as usual. But here in the heartland, and in other places where the real business of the union gets done, the government's efforts show signs of success.

Although no one is calling the locals squeaky-clean, many of the union's 1.4 million rank-and-filers think the union is less corrupt and more democratic than ever. And few think that would have happened if the Justice Department hadn't intervened.

The national economy won't rise or fall on the goings-on in the Teamsters. But with more than 20,000 Teamster labor contracts in North America, the reforms can make things difficult for employers in the years ahead. Leo Troy, a labor economist at Rutgers University, says a more democratic union encourages members to speak out, often with an "exaggerated idea of what can be achieved" in contract negotiations. That increases the chances of conflict.

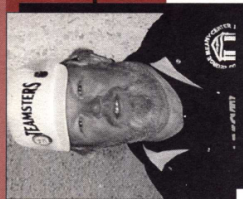
The aggressiveness shows up in other ways. At Local 705 on this city's west side, organizing

(continued on page 3)

Office of

the Secretary-Treasurer

Gerald Zero, Secretary-Treasurer



Despite the decline in union membership—or more accurately because of it—certain right-wing politicians have concocted new anti-union legislation to weaken us even more. A

prime example is California's Proposition 226, which would require labor unions to get permission from each and every one of their members before they could spend any money for political purposes.

This Proposition is nothing more than another attempt by right-wing, anti-union politicians to destroy all that union members have worked for over the life of the labor movement.

The fact that Proposition 226 is on the agenda now is no accident. It is a direct response to labor's recent successes in the political arena. In the last national election, right-wingers saw labor flex its political muscle like we hadn't done in decades. When the election was over and our candidates had won, corporate America was furious—and scared. Now they are coming after us with legislation that would make it nearly impossible for unions to muster our political might.

Proposition 226 would stop unions from engaging in voter registration, from

reimbursing members for working on behalf of pro-labor candidates, and it would stop unions from making political contributions. Proposition 226 would not place any restrictions on corporate contributions, which were 11 times greater than those of labor unions.

The politicians who are pushing Proposition 226 may be greedy and unscrupulous, but they aren't fools. They know that when unions and working people are active in the political process, we get things corporate America doesn't want us to have.

Union efforts helped pass Social Security, OSHA, the Family Medical Leave Act, the 8-hour day and the 40-hour week. If Proposition 226 had been on the books when Congress was voting on these issues, we probably wouldn't have any of these protections today.

Here at home, 705's political activism paved the way for a \$7.2 million settlement from UPS. (See back page for that story.) That, too, would have been a losing effort if we were robbed of our political strength.

Back in the 70's and 80's, Big Business profited greatly from labor's political lethargy. As the accompanying graphs show, working families'

Young Workers Greeted With Lower Wages

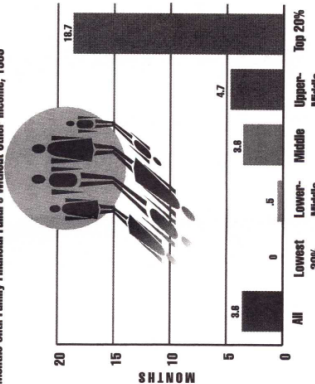
Entry-level Wages of High School Graduates, 1973-85



Note: A series of unrelated trends has been shown in terms of experience. Source: Proprietary Gap: A Chronicle of American Living Standards.

Many Families Won't Last Long on Savings

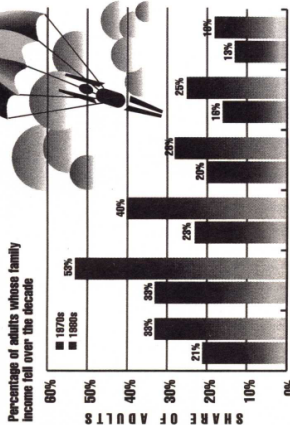
Months Until Family Financial Failure Without Other Income, 1989



Note: One fifth of all families are in each income class. The one fifth of families with the lowest income are in the lowest fifth. The one fifth of families with the highest income are in the highest fifth. Source: Proprietary Gap: A Chronicle of American Living Standards.

More Workers See Their Incomes Fall

Percentage of adults whose family income fell over the decade



INCOME GROUP

Note: "Middle" defined as 22-49 years old and the middle of all families are in each income class. The one fifth of families with the lowest income are in the lowest fifth. The one fifth of families are in the highest fifth. Source: Proprietary Gap: A Chronicle of American Living Standards.

financial situation today is in decline, in part due to labor's near disappearance from political realm. Corporate America saw how much it was able to get away with when

Here at home, 705's political activism paved the way for a \$7.5 million settlement from UPS.

unions bowed out of politics, and Proposition 226 is designed to halt our efforts to reverse that trend.

If you still aren't sure who this legislation will benefit, just look at who its supporters are: California Gov. Pete

Wilson (who is also trying to

705—Model of Reform

(continued from page 1)

workers at nonunion companies is a top priority. At firms with Teamster contracts, grievance and arbitration cases against area firms are on the rise.

Rich Egeland remembers a time not long ago when members weren't welcome in the offices of their own union. It was, "You have a job; so shut up," Mr. Egeland says. Now, the 40-year-old truck driver says, "We feel these people are on our side. If you have a problem, they get it solved."

Similar sentiments are heard in other locals where elections have replaced coronations of entrenched leaders.

This nascent democracy is "one of the great achievements" of government's oversight of the Teamsters, says Carl Biers, executive director of the Association for Union Democracy in New York. "In some locals, no one had dared challenge the incumbents for 30 years."

Many members of Local 705 here say the changes started after the 17,500-member local was placed in trusteeship in 1993, and they continued after Gerald Zero and John McCormick were elected two years later as the local's top officers.

One of the first things they did was to cut their own pay. Financial reports filed at the Labor Department show that

longtime leader Dan Liguoritis was paid \$230,380 in 1992, and nine of his officials got more than \$90,000 each. Now, Mr. Zero, the secretary-treasurer, gets the top pay, \$87,005. The savings have been plowed back into programs such as organizing and training.

Some changes are largely symbolic, such as hanging pictures of members on the walls and selling eight Lincoln Town cars used by the old regime. Other reforms go to the heart of union business. New microphones are hooked up in the union hall so members can be heard at meetings. Rank-and-fileers serve on committees to negotiate contracts with employers. Aided by union headquarters in Washington, the locals train members to be stewards, who help resolve problems on the job site.

In the past, many members complain, they rarely saw their union representatives. Now, representatives spend their mornings visiting members at truck depots and other work sites. A newsletter updates members on the progress of negotiations, grievances and organizing drives.

Fuel-truck driver Rick Romano, 42, spent Tuesday nights last fall taking a union-paid leadership course at DePaul University. He has also attended classes at the local on topics such as labor history. The changes have "lit the spark in me," he says.

(continued on page 9)



UPShot

Several stories in this issue of UPDATE talk about some very positive things that have happened to UPS Teamsters recently.

However, there were a few events that brought to mind some of the things we need to "brush up" on. For example, Article 6 of our new agreement deals with "extra contract agreements." That article states that most employees have specific start times and lunch hours.

Members who start early without pay, and/or work through their lunch hours without pay are undermining contract rights we have fought long and hard to win.

Our contract also has language that limits the use of package car "helpers" to Christmas time only. Drivers can—and should—refuse a

helper any other time of year. If you don't, you cost your Union brothers and sisters a chance at more full-time jobs. Every two helpers on the street eliminates one full-time driver position. We all took great pains to turn the corner on part-time jobs in this last contract, but continued use of helpers defeats our goal. Check your mirrors!

I also want to remind everyone about signing things. Under the contract, there are very few things you are required to sign for, aside from your paycheck, yet we continue to hear that supervisors push things in front of you to sign. In almost every instance, you do not have to sign. Before you sign any-

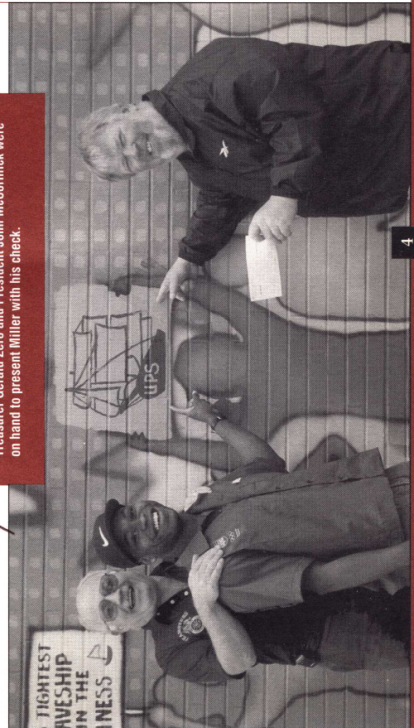
thing, ask your steward what you should do.

On another note, IBT Small Package Director Ken Hall was in Chicago last month to chair the National Grievance Panel, and to hold a meeting about the Delivery Information Clerk issue.

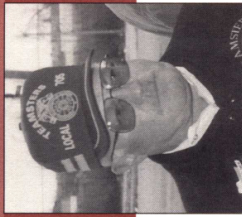
Another "Fish in a Barrel" UPS case

They're brain dead—again! First UPS tried to fire package car driver Ken Miller, then the company delayed his arbitration case for nearly a year. Of course, the delay came back to haunt them when the

UPS package car driver Ken Miller's back pay check was so big that it took three guys to lift it! Miller was awarded \$27,000 in a recent 705 arbitration victory. 705 Secretary-Treasurer Gerald Zero and President John McCormick were on hand to present Miller with his check.



John McCormick President



arbitrator ruled that the termination was not for just cause—and ordered UPS to reinstate Ken with full back pay and benefits. When the bill was totaled, UPS owed Ken more than \$27,000.

Once a Rat, Always a Rat!

Thanks to the folks at Labor Notes we have this little ditty to report: Some of you might remember Business Professor Jeffrey Sonnenfeld, one of management's head cheerleaders during the UPS strike last summer. Last year Sonnenfeld was in academia's good graces when he was running the Leadership and Career Studies at Emory University (a.k.a. CEO College), offering seminars to business executives, and spouting off against UPS workers who were trying to protect their rights. But life took a little turn for the good professor when he was reportedly caught on camera vandalizing a building at Emory.

Labor Notes reports that Sonnenfeld, who was about to take a job at the Georgia Institute of Technology, "was apparently miffed at the dean, whose job he had unsuccessfully sought." In response, Emory's administration did for the professor what he and his ilk have done for so many others: it put him out of a job!

New Rulings in IBT Election

After a delay of several weeks, a tentative election schedule has been set in the race for IBT General President. The schedule calls for ballots to be mailed to members on September 15, 1998, and counting to begin on October 14, 1998.

The original schedule was suspended by U.S. District Court Judge David Edelstein's ruling that ordered Election Officer Michael G. Cherkasky to investigate charges of wrongdoing by the Hoffa campaign.

Cherkasky's investigation found several fundraising violations by the Hoffa campaign, including more than \$180,000 in illegal contributions and spending. The investigation cleared Hoffa to run, but banned Hoffa's chief campaign aide from all further participation in the IBT election. The decision to allow Hoffa to run was being appealed at press time. The proposed election schedule could also be affected by the appeal process.

In other court actions, Judge Edelstein ruled that the winner of the election will serve out the remainder of the five-year term originally contested in the 1996 election—not an entirely new five-year term.

Finally, the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ordered the U.S. Government to pay the cost of the rerun election. That decision overturned a lower court order and has generated protests from several anti-union congressmen. The Appeals Court stated that the 1989 consent decree required the Government to pay for the election, and nothing has occurred that would invalidate that clause.



705 Joins in Haymarket Dedication Ceremony

Secretary-Treasurer Gerald Zero and several 705 members joined a bevy of area labor supporters May 3 in a ceremony designating the Haymarket Martyrs' Monument a national historic landmark. The monument commemorates eight labor leaders wrongly sentenced to death in connection with the Haymarket Riot. Four were hanged and a fifth committed suicide before the remaining three were pardoned in 1893.

On May 3, 1886 Chicago police fired into a crowd of strikers, killing four. Workers held a peaceful protest at Haymarket Square the next day. When police stormed the peaceful crowd, a bomb was thrown, killing one officer. Although no one knows who threw the bomb, eight of Chicago's most notable activists were tried and convicted by a kangaroo court.

The incident—the real origin of May Day—has long stood as a symbol throughout the world of the struggle for workers' rights. It is also a chilling reminder of why we must stand together and never let our adversaries take back any of the power we have won.

Pictured center is Local 705 Steward Alex Kantorowicz.

A CALL TO ACTION

"Our parents and grandparents won social security, OSHA and the 8-hour day by making their demands part of the national political agenda. If we want decent healthcare, we have to win it the same way. We have to build a national political movement that won't let up until we force Washington to give us what we want."

Gerald Zero

AFL-CIO President John Sweeney has been crisscrossing the country, holding a series of forums to give rank-and-file a chance to speak out on what they see as the most serious problems facing working people today. The Number One issue among workers across America: Healthcare.

Unions have led the way in providing low-cost healthcare to their members. A person who is a member of a union is likely to be in a better plan than non-union working people. But with the

state of the healthcare industry today, even the best plans are far below what working people need and deserve. And every time someone else's benefits are weakened, ours get squeezed even more.

Historically, the battle for better healthcare has been fought out at the negotiating table. But now national political and economic factors are putting new pressures on the traditional management-worker relationship. In this special report, UPDATE examines the roots of the healthcare morass in that

context, and explains why working people and their unions must take this fight to the national political level.

How did the crisis begin?

As healthcare costs skyrocketed in recent decades, corporations were eager to relieve themselves of some of the financial burden of providing insurance. But they were not about to go up against the powerful insurance industry (which bankrolls most of the country's

major corporations) to demand real cost-cutting reforms. Instead, corporate America launched a major offensive on working people's benefits, on the assumption the labor movement had grown too weak to put up serious resistance. At almost the same time, the Reagan and Bush administrations started putting the squeeze on Medicare and Medicaid.

That combination left millions of Americans uninsured, which in turn drove up medical costs. Doctors and hospitals charge inflated fees to cover the services they

Union members must get active mobilizing, building public support and putting pressure on our national politicians.

provide to the uninsured. (In other words, you subsidize every corporation that decides to shirk its responsibility to insure its employees.) Those inflated prices put even more pressure on management to institute co-pays and other benefits cuts.

When the healthcare crisis began spiraling out of control in the early '90's, the public outcry for reform was so strong it helped sweep President Clinton into office on the wings of healthcare reform—into office.

Covered Benefits, by Plan Type

	Conventional	HMO	PPO	POS
Adult physicals	57.2%	98.3%	76.0%	97.2%
Well-baby care	73.4	99.7	86.5	98.1
Childhood immunizations	75.0	99.7	85.3	97.8
Prenatal care	94.7	99.9	97.1	99.5
Mammography screening	86.6	98.3	94.6	98.6
Screening pap test	83.2	99.3	92.5	98.9
Occupational therapy	79.3	72.7	77.3	81.7
Outpatient mental health benefits	98.3	97.8	98.2	99.5
Inpatient mental health benefits	98.7	98.0	98.3	99.5
Chiropractic care	85.2	52.5	89.3	83.8
Prescription drugs	98.4	98.1	97.1	96.6
Vision benefits	18.7	51.6	27.9	51.3
Dental benefits	32.6	16.0	51.0	26.5
Hospice care for terminally ill patients	85.9	78.0	85.5	85.5

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Average Percentage of Workers in Plans Requiring No Employee Contribution for Premiums, by Plan Type

	Single Coverage	Single +1 Coverage	Family Coverage
Conventional	37.7%	13.3%	13.3%
HMO	18.3	7.7	8.7
PPO	36.4	6.9	22.7
POS	23.9	9.7	15.4

Average Monthly Premium Cost, by Plan Type

	Single Coverage	Single +1 Coverage	Family Coverage
Conventional	\$192.62	\$409.21	\$502.72
HMO	160.02	309.35	429.75
PPO	168.98	336.22	443.74
POS	168.42	336.06	464.33

Average Percent of Premium Paid by Employer, by Plan Type

	Single Coverage	Single +1 Coverage	Family Coverage
Conventional	88.1%	83.9%	75.1%
HMO	76.7	69.9	70.4
PPO	82.0	68.0	73.0
POS	79.0	72.0	75.0

Corporate America's Counter Attack

The real solution is to provide universal coverage on a national basis, like virtually every other industrialized country. But that is precisely what the insurance industries don't want. That's why it has used every diversionary tactic it could find to blow universal coverage off the political radar screen.

When Clinton was swept into office on the wings of healthcare reform, Corporate

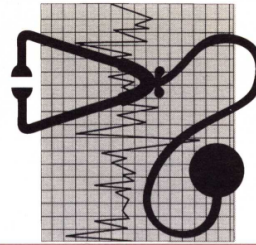
America immediately fought back with such "constructive" tactics as making fun of Hillary's ankles and using Canada's healthcare system as the Bogyman. They conveniently failed to mention that Canada's system is one of the best healthcare systems in the world—far superior to what we have in the US.

Although its methods were dirty and its "facts" shoddy, Big Business succeeded in making serious healthcare reform a political hot potato few politicians had the guts to touch.

Back to the (Political) Mat

Clearly this situation must change, but as usual it will take the blood, sweat and tears of working people to make it happen. Corporate America got away with muscling healthcare reform off the national agenda. Now it's up to us to put it back.

At the voting booth, union members must send a message to politicians who oppose healthcare reforms. (They're usually the same people who vote against other issues that are important to working people.) And union members must get active mobilizing, building public support and putting pressure on our national politicians. In the coming months, unions including Local 705 will be putting together campaigns to demand universal healthcare coverage. We will need the help and participation of every member to fight this all-important battle.



Pro-union Pops Win Primary with 705's Support

Congratulations to all DRIVE members who worked hard in support of pro-labor candidates during Illinois's March 17 primary. DRIVE, Local 705's political arm, backed four candidates in the primary—and all four came out winners! If these union-backed candidates continue to do well in November's general election, that'll be great news for working people throughout the state.

Ten Local 705 rank-and-filers were put on DRIVE salary in the final days of the campaign to help get out the vote for candidates with strong pro-union voting records.

Palatine Steward John Clary was one of those assigned to DRIVE duties. "Every one of those candidates won on March 17, and we feel real good about our success," Clary said.

The four candidates were Glenn Poshard for governor, Jesse White for secretary of state, Jan Schakowsky for U.S. Congress, and John Stroger for Cook County board president.

Secretary-Treasurer Gerald Zero echoed Clary's statement, "We concentrated on these four candidates because they had the strongest history of supporting union positions. We are very happy that

each of them succeeded." Zero added that the Local's criteria for selecting candidates to support has changed since the previous administration. "We are past the time of giving our money and support to politicians who just turn around later and stab us in the back," he said.

"Now, our support goes only to those who have proved that they have earned it—and that's why the members take our recommendations more seriously."

UPS's Political Play Backfires

When UPS management gave gubernatorial candidate Glenn Poshard "the bum's rush" the day before the election, we knew right then we were supporting the right candidate!

Poshard, who walked the picket line with striking UFS Teamsters last summer, greeted members in the CACH parking lot March 16 to answer any questions they might have. UPS management had Poshard removed from the property, claiming they didn't allow politicians on the grounds during elections.

UPDATE: We therefore "shocked" to learn that Phil Cram was speaking to a captive audience of UFS workers in Palatine at almost the very moment Poshard was being removed! It looks like management's lap-dogs have the run of the house, while

people who support workers don't even get a chance to talk in the fields. But as sneaky as management's action was, it was further proof that we picked the right guy to back for Gov!



U.S. Congressional candidate Jan Schakowsky turned out to support striking UFS members at the Jefferson Street rally last August. Gubernatorial candidate Glenn Poshard greeted members after speaking at the February membership meeting.



Coming This Fall: One Member—One Block

Union members throughout Illinois will be asked to be part of a special program to protect workers' rights at the ballot box this fall. "One Member—One Block" is designed to take our important message to our neighbors and friends all over Illinois. So stay tuned, we'll have detailed information about this effort in the coming weeks.

Weingarten Rights

The Supreme Court has ruled that an employee is entitled to have a Union representative present during any interview which may result in his or her discipline. It is up to you, the employee, to insist on having your Union representative present. If you fail to do so, you may waive your rights.

Suggested Interrogation Rights Statement: "If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that my Union steward, business agent or Union officer be present at this meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions."

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GOP Bullies Labor Board Counsel out of Office

The Republicans just can't keep their grubby hands off of the supposedly non-partisan National Labor Relations Board. Their most recent "success" was viciously harassing NLRB General Counsel Fred Feinstein until he finally decided not to seek renomination for his post.

Feinstein, the labor board's chief prosecutor, was the recipient of the GOP's unrelenting attacks because he had the guts to go after companies that had been committing unfair labor practices. Spoiled by the Reagan/Bush era, corporate executives had come to expect the labor board to simply look the other way when violations occurred. President Clinton was expected to renominate Feinstein for his position with the labor board. But GOP leaders had vowed to block the incumbent's confirmation. Feinstein said he decided to bow out of the running because a protracted fight would be damaging to the NLRB, and would interfere with the agency's ability to carry on with its work.

Since taking control of Congress, the Republicans had sought to water down the NLRB's decision-making powers and cut its budget. Feinstein had a reputation for acting in the opposite direction, giving labor an equal hearing for the first time in years. Corporate executives immediately began calling for his head, and Republican lawmakers were quick to respond. Some of the corporations that put Feinstein on the GOP's hit list were Caterpillar, Overnight Trucking and the Detroit newspapers.

705—Model of Reform (continued from page 3)

That doesn't make his local—or others—a model of civility. Indeed, Local 705 went through an election last fall that mirrored the raucous national battle. At the local's nominating meeting, plain-clothes security guards watched over the packed union hall as supporters of each slate of candidates tried to out-shout each other.

Both candidates pledged an open door. "I totally disagreed with Danny Ligurotis's dictatorship of the local," says Dane Passo, who ran against Mr. Zero and had worked as a union organizer for Mr. Ligurotis. Mr. Zero, an ardent Carey backer, narrowly defeated Mr. Passo. Mr. Hoffa's campaign manager in Chicago, Mr. Passo is challenging the results.

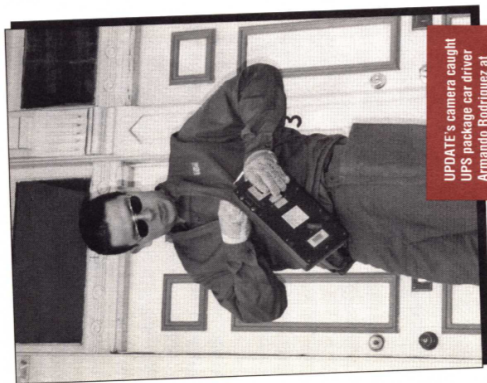
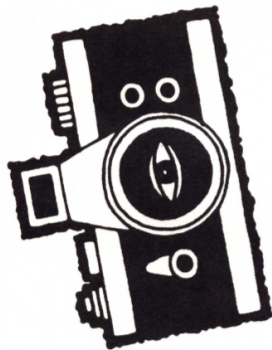


All members should call the Union office at (312) 738-2800 the first day you are off work to put yourself on the Sick List. The Sick List cannot be back-dated, so be sure to call the first day!

Also, remember to call and have yourself taken off of the list when you return to work. If you don't get a response within two days (you know how messages sometimes get garbled), be sure to call back!

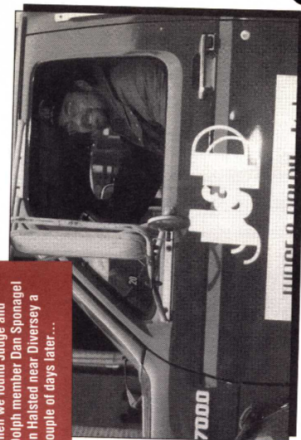
Michael Holland oversaw the national Teamsters election when Mr. Carey was first elected in 1991, and now is a lawyer for Local 705. The local's election brawl "is not a particularly pretty process," he says. "But the contentiousness in that local union would never have been permitted" prior to government intervention. The mess at the national level isn't likely to stop people such as Mr. Zero from forging alliances with left-leaning religious and social groups. "Teamsters are important people because they are everywhere," says Richard Freeman, an economics professor and labor expert at Harvard University. "These guys are active, cutting deals for working people throughout the system."

Smile! You're on....

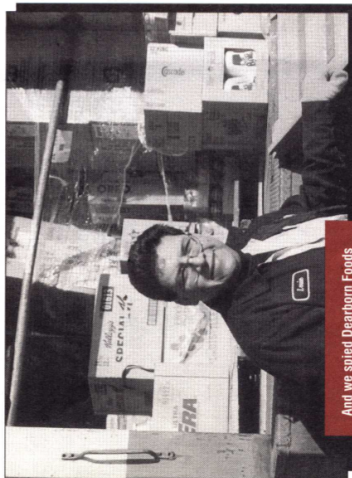


UPDATE's camera caught UPS package car driver Amando Rodriguez at a delivery stop near Wrigley Field....

Then we found Judge and Dolph member Dan Spangiel on Halsted near Diversey a couple of days later....



Finally, we snapped Pacific Wine's Adam Martinez making his last stop of the day on N. Clark St.



And we spied Dearborn Foods member Louis Ortega when we stopped at a White Hen for an on-the-way-to-work coffee one morning....



Shop Talk



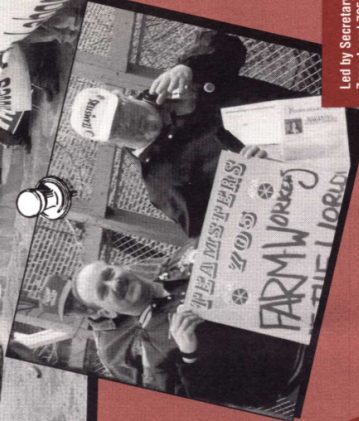
Grazzi

Belated thanks to the folks at Boni Vito restaurant, on Van Buren St. in downtown Chicago, for the pizzas they provided to UPS Teamsters during last summer's strike. Next time you're in the Loop, stop by and thank the folks at Boni Vito for their support—and order a pizza!



AIDS Ride III

UPS Jeff-Street Steward Manuel Lara is back in training for his third straight AIDS ride to Chicago AIDS sufferers of that raise money for sufferers of that disease. Manuel has already raised several thousand dollars through his efforts—and with the support of 705 Teamsters, pledge forms are available on the table outside the Cage, and will be on hand at upcoming General Membership meetings. Let's all dig in and help Brother Lara in his important work!



Led by Secretary-Treasurer Gerald Zero, Local 705 turned out strong for the March 31 rally protesting Driscoll Strawberry's anti-worker policies. The rally was held in front of the company's Chicago area distributor.



705 Lobbying Efforts Pay-off: UPS Slammed with \$7.2 Million Settlement

Last year, UPDATE reported on a major lobbying success by Local 705 officers in Springfield. As reported in the January, 1997 issue, Secretary-Treasurer Gerald Zero, President John McCormick and Steve Pocztowski (now a 705 Trustee), slammed the brakes on UPS's attack on workers' right to sue. Management was trying to take away parcel drivers' right to sue the company for cheating them out of overtime pay.

Back then, UPS had tried

to get the Republican-controlled state legislature to change the rules on overtime lawsuits after the company lost a similar lawsuit in another state. 705's leadership beat back the company's scheme, allowing our members to pursue their class-action suit which has now netted a \$7.2 million settlement. Under the agreement, some members will be reimbursed as much as \$2,700.

"Our union's leadership proved how important political action is to everyone," said Franklin Park driver

Ralph Vara. "We had a right to our day in court, and Jerry, John and Steve's lobbying saved it for us."

Secretary-Treasurer Zero hailed the agreement: "Everyone told us we didn't have a chance when John, Steve and I went down to Springfield to fight UPS's outrageous attempt to rob its employees of their right to a fair trial.

"Apparently these people didn't know the kind of power working people can have when we organize a campaign and fight together," Zero said. "UPS hired the

most expensive lobbyists in the state—including Winston & Strawn, the powerful law firm headed by former Governor Jim Thompson—but we finally beat them in the Illinois Senate."

"This was about fair play and we proved we could protect our members' rights in the political system as well as on the job," 705 President John McCormick said. "The court said that the UPS drivers had filed a legitimate lawsuit, but UPS tried to back-door our members in the legislature. We stood together and put an end to their end-run attack."



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